MILITARY SECURITY

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DESIGNATED OFFICER COURIERS TO CONVEY
ARMY-AIR FORCE SECURITY COURIER SERVICE MATERIAL

Paragraph

1. Applicability.—Commissioned or warrant officers designated as officer couriers under the authority contained in SR 380-110-5—AFR 36-26, and chapter 15, Navy Regulations, for the transmission of Army-Air Force Security Courier Service (classified) material (hereinafter referred to as "security material") will be governed by the instructions in these regulations. It is incumbent upon each designated officer courier to read and become thoroughly familiar with the instructions contained herein and in letter, Departments of the Army and the Air Force (AGAO-S 311.4 (3 Jan 50) AAFPS-C-M—AAG 311.4), 10 February 1950. In the absence of specific instructions, designated officer couriers will use prudent judgment as necessitated by circumstances.

2. Personal custody.—Security material will be retained in the personal custody of the designated courier until relinquished to the courier transfer officer at destination or the addressee, when so directed by the originating courier transfer officer, except when the volume of material warrants protective storage en route as outlined below.

   a. *Via air.*—Such security material conveyed by airplane will be placed in the cargo compartment of the airplane, which will be locked in the presence of the designated courier. He will be present each
time this compartment is opened to insure that the security material is not off-loaded en route without his knowledge.

b. Via rail.—Such security material conveyed by train will be placed in inclosed bedroom accommodations which will be kept under the immediate protection and custody of the designated courier at all times except when suitable armed guard is available for relief purposes. (See par. 4b (1).)

c. Via water.—Such security material conveyed by—

(1) Military Sea Transport Service transports operated by United States Government personnel will be placed in a locked stateroom or compartment, which will be kept under—

(a) Personal protection and custody of the designated courier, or

(b) Armed guard (see par. 4b (1)) furnished by the transport commander or commanding officer of troops.

(2) Vessels of United States registry, other than indicated above, and foreign registry will be placed in a locked stateroom or compartment, which will be kept under the personal protection and custody of the designated courier at all times, except when suitable armed guard is available for relief purposes. (See par. 4b (1).)

3. Personal verification of security material.—The designated courier personally will check and verify each security courier article by APS rotary lock number or article number when loaded on or unloaded from any type conveyance or transport.

4. Safeguards at stop-overs en route.—a. When stop-overs en route are necessary, security material will be placed in custody of the courier transfer officer thereat.

b. When no courier transfer officer is available, it will be protected in the following manner until travel to destination is resumed:

(1) Placed under armed guard of the United States Government who will be instructed to permit no one to withdraw, dispatch, or otherwise have access to the matter until personally relieved by the designated courier; or

(2) Placed temporarily in the custody of the security officer of Army, Navy, or Air Force commands, or United States Embassy, Legation, or Consulate.

c. When circumstances prevent resumption of travel with the material, the designated courier will notify the courier transfer officer at either point of origin or destination, whichever is nearest, as to the reason, and request disposition instructions.
d. Under no circumstances will custody of the material be relinquished to any person for forwarding to destination except to a courier transfer officer, unless other disposition instructions as indicated above are received.

5. Grounding or docking of transportation under foreign jurisdiction.—a. Where seizure or probable compromise appears imminent, the designated courier will—

(1) Destroy the pouches or their contents by burning.

(2) If not subject to burning, mutilate beyond recognition; or

(3) Weight and sink such security material by the most practical method.

b. Detailed instructions on destruction of security material are contained in directives issued to Army-Air Force security courier officers.

6. Delivery of security material.—a. Positive identity of the courier transfer officer, the addressee, or the individuals indicated in paragraph 4b(2) will be established before the courier material is surrendered.

b. Receipt will be obtained from the courier transfer officer, the addressee, or the individuals indicated in paragraph 4b(2), and a copy retained by the designated courier for his records.

7. Command responsibilities.—In accordance with current regulations, any Army or Air Force commander upon whom request is made by the designated courier will, to the maximum extent possible—

a. Furnish proper storage and armed guards when necessary for safeguarding security material.

b. Provide adequate transportation for the proper transmission of security material.

8. Espionage laws.—Attention is directed to the following extract of Title 18, U. S. C., Section 793:

Whoever, lawfully or unlawfully having possession of, access to, control over, or being intrusted with any documents, writing, code book, signal book, sketch, photograph, photographic negative, blue print, plan, map, model, instrument, appliance, or note relating to the national defense, willfully communicates or transmits or attempts to communicate or transmit the same to any person not entitled to receive it, or willfully retains the same and fails to deliver it on demand to the officer or employee of the United States entitled to receive it; or

Whoever, being intrusted with or having lawful possession or control of any document, writing, code book, signal book, sketch, photograph, photographic negative, blue print, plan, map, model, note, or information, relating to the national defense, through gross negligence permits the same to be removed from its proper place of custody or delivered to anyone in violation of his trust, or to be lost, stolen, abstracted, or destroyed—
Shall be fined not more than $10,000 or imprisoned not more than ten years, or both.

[AGO 311.4 (3 Jan 50)]

By order of the Secretaries of the Army and the Air Force:

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DISTRIBUTION:
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For explanation of distribution formula, see SR 310-90-1.
Air Force:
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